

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 PA-02 SS-15 SSO-00

PRS-01 INR-07 RSC-01 /039 W
----- 078874

O 221431Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

USINFO WASHDC IMMEIDATE

VOA MUNICH IMMEIDATE

USDEL VLADIVOSTOK IMMEIDATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEIDATE

UNCLAS MOSCOW 17666

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

TOKYO FOR AMBASSADOR STOESEL

USINFO FOR IOP/M

1. VLADIVOSTOK MEETING. SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUED TO BOULD UP COVERAGE OF EVENTS RELATED TO THE MEETING ON SATURDAY. ALL CENTRAL PRESS ON NOVEMBER 22 REPORT THE ARRIVAL IN Khabarovsk of Brezhnev and his companions on their way to Vladivostok. All papers reported Brezhnev's meeting in Khabarovsk with leaders of the Soviet Eastern provinces; Gromyko also participated. The television news on November 21 led with Brezhnev's travels and the Vladivostok meeting, and featured an interview with CPUSA official Jackson who underlined the benefits to both peoples of Moscow's detente policy. IZVESTIYA'S FRONT PAGE LEADER (NOVEMBER 21) DESCRIBED THE COURSE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE WORLD IN ACCORD WITH BREZHNEV'S VIEWS. THE ARTICLE QUOTED BREZHNEV AT
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THE BEGINNING AND END AND DESCRIBED HIM AS "HEAD OF THE

CENTRAL COMMITTEE" OF THE PARTY, A SLIGHT ELEVATION IN HIS OFFICIAL STATURE. FROM THE U.S. PERSPECTIVE, IZVESTIYA CARRIES A MAJOR ARTICLE BY CORRESPONDENT KONDRASHOV FROM ATLANTA WHICH QUOTES THE MAYOR, THE STATE GOVERNOR AND FORMER SECRETARY DEAN RUSK AS FAVORING BETTER RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW. ATLANTA IS PORTAYED AS A BAROMETER AND A MICROCOSM OF THE U.S. A TASS ARTICLE FROM NEW YORK, CARRIED IN PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA, CITED A U.S. BUSINESSMAN AND A GOVERNMENT TRADE OFFICIAL LOOKING TOWARD THE BENEFITS FROM THE VLADIVOSTOK MEETING.

2. BILATERAL MATTERS. PRAVDA REPORTS ON PAGE ONE THE DECISION OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO REPORT OUT THE TRADE BILL FAVORABLY, AND TO AWAIT ANOTHER STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. (PRAVDA NOTES THAT THE SECRETARY HAS ALREADY SPOKEN IN FAVOR OF THE BILL AND OF MFN.) SOVIET HEALTH MINISTER PETROVSKY, IN A FEATURE ARTICLE IN PRAVDA, WRITES ABOUT THE SOVIET-U.S. EXCHANGES IN THE FIELDS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH SINCE THE SIGNING OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IN 1972. THE ARTICLE STRESSES THE BENEFITS TO BOTH SIDES OF THIS FRUIT OF DETENTE.

3. PRESIDENT'S TRAVELS. IZVESTIYA (NOVMEBER 21) FOLLOWS THE LINE SET BY PRAVDA YESTERDAY ON THE JAPAN-U.S. COMMUNIQUE BY CITING JAPANESE PRESS COMMENTS ON THE THINGS LEFT UNSAID. NONE OF THE MEDIA HAVE SO FAR REPORTED THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO SEOUL. HOWEVER, IZVESTIYA'S COMMENTARY IS DEVOTED TO SUPPORTING NORTH KOREA'S ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE THE REDUCTION OF TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA TOWARD THE GOAL OF PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES. THE PRO-PYONGYANG EFFORTS AT THE UN ARE DISCUSSED, BUT THE U.S. IS NOT MENTIONED EXPLICITLY.

4. ZAMBIA. ALL CENTRAL PRESS CONTINUE TO REPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF PRESIDNET KAUNDA IN MOSCOW, INCLUDING HIS TALKS ON NOVEMBER 21 WITH PODGORNYY.

5. OTHER ITEMS. IZVESTIYA CITES "FOREIGN OBSERVERS" TO UNCLASSIFIED

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CRITICIZE THE CENTO "MIDLINK" EXERCISES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND QUOTES INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER SWARAN SINGH THAT SUCH EXERCISES ARE INAPPROPRIATE IN AN AGE OF DETENTE. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY NOTES OPPOSITION BY "THE MASSES" TO MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, AND PRAVDA REPORTS THE FAILURE OF MEDIATION EFFORTS IN THE U.S. COAL MINERS' STRIKE.
MATLOCK

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY'S PARTY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTE, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PRESS SUMMARIES, VLADIVOSTOK
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW17666
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0516
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741120/aaaaaqta.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 NOV 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <14-Nov-2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY
TAGS: PFOR, UR, PRAVDA, IZVESTYA, (FORD, GERALD R), (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005